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Preface

The *Natural Gas Monthly (NGM)* is prepared in the Natural Gas Division, Office of Oil and Gas, Energy Information Administration (EIA), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), under the direction of Joan E. Heinkel.

General questions and comments regarding the *NGM* may be referred to Ann M. Ducca (202) 586-6137. Specific technical questions may be referred to the appropriate persons listed in Appendix E.

The *NGM* highlights activities, events, and analyses of interest to public and private sector organizations associated with the natural gas industry. Volume and price data are presented each month for natural gas production, distribution, consumption, and interstate pipeline activities. Producer-related activities and underground storage data are also reported. From time to time, the *NGM* features articles designed to assist readers in using and interpreting natural gas information.

The data in this publication are collected on surveys conducted by the EIA to fulfill its responsibilities for gathering and reporting energy data. Some of the data are collected under the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), an independent commission within the DOE, which has jurisdiction primarily in the regulation of electric utilities and the interstate natural gas industry. Geographic coverage is the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Explanatory Notes supplement the information found in tables of the report. A description of the data collection surveys that support the *NGM* is provided in the Data Sources section. A glossary of the terms used in this report is also provided to assist readers in understanding the data presented in this publication.

All natural gas volumes are reported at a pressure base of 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute (psia) and at 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Cubic feet are converted to cubic meters by applying a factor of 0.02831685.

Common Abbreviations Used in the Natural Gas Monthly

| AGA | American Gas Association | IOGCC | Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission |
|------|---|-------|---|
| Bbl | Barrels | LNG | Liquefied Natural Gas |
| BLS | Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor | Mcf | Thousand Cubic Feet |
| Bcf | Billion Cubic Feet | MMBtu | Million British Thermal Units |
| BOM | Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the | MMcf | Million Cubic Feet |
| D. | Interior | MMS | United States Minerals Management |
| Btu | British Thermal Unit | | Service, U.S. Department of the Interior |
| DOE | U.S. Department of Energy | NGL | Natural Gas Liquids |
| DOI | U.S. Department of the Interior | OCS | Outer Continental Shelf |
| EIA | Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy | STIFS | Short-Term Integrated Forecasting System |
| FERC | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission | STEO | Short Term Energy Outlook |
| | | Tcf | Trillion Cubic Feet |

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